

Select Board Minutes

April 4, 2023

Town of Cohasset

Select Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

41 Highland Ave – Town Hall Auditorium

Select Board Members Present: Jack Creighton, Chair
Jean Healey Dippold
Corey D. Evans – VIA Remote
Paul Grady
Diane Kennedy

Others Participating: Christopher Senior, Town Manager

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. Roll Call Vote; Diane Kennedy-Present, Corey Evans-Present, Jean Healey Dippold-Present, Paul Grady-Present, Jack Creighton-Present.

Pledge-Recited.

Public Comment – None.

Cohasset Fire Department- Year in Review – Communication Specialist, Justin Shrair prepared a video reflecting the Cohasset Fire Department’s year in review. Fire Chief Dockray and new Assistant Chief Hernan were present to answer Select Board questions about how the past year has progressed since they took over and the challenges they faced. The Select Board and audience thanked both the chiefs for their service.

Licenses/Permits/Events

Earth Day - The Town received an application from the Open Space & Recreation Commission to host the annual Earth Day Event on April 22, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Maryann Wetherald, 49 Redgate Lane, was present and reviewed the details of the event. **Motion by Select Member Grady to approve the Earth Day Event on April 22, 2023, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.**

Atlantica Operating LLC, d/b/a Olde-Salt House Public Hearing- New On Premises All Alcohol Restaurant– Atty. Jim Lampke, Council to the Town on Licensing and Atty. Ryan Gazda, attorney for Altantica Operating LLC were present to seek approval of the propose new operating hours for the Atlantica Restaurant’s year-round, All Alcohol and Common Victuallar licenses. Atty. Lampke reviewed the hour options. Atty. Gazda requested to have the same operating hours that Atlantica had on their previous licenses which was 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday – Saturday and 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. on Sunday. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to approve Olde Salt House All Alcohol and Common Victuallar with the following operating hours, Monday – Sunday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.**

Town Hall Project – The Select Board discussed putting the Town Hall Project back on the warrant for Town Meeting. Select Member Dippold recommended letting the voters make the decision at Town Meeting. Phil Lehr, Chair of the Town Hall Building Committee, explained that with the loss of a week, the committee would not have time to complete all the requirements necessary to bring the project to

Town Meeting. Select Member Grady stated that he didn't want to kick the can down the road any longer. Select Member Evans expressed his confusion on the change of heart from last week by some of the board members. Select Member Grady stated that the Board listened to the proponents of the project at the last Select Board meeting, thought about it and agreed with them. **Motion by Select Member Grady to draft a warrant article for the Town Hall Building Project for Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Dippold.** The board had a lengthy discussion. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to call the vote, seconded by Select Member Grady.** Roll Call Vote, Paul Grady-Aye, Jean Healy Dippold-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye, Cory Evans-Nay. **Motion by Select Member Dippold with respect to the borrowing article for the town to read as "to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum of money for the design and construction of an addition to and renovations of Town Hall, including costs incidental or related thereto and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow all or a portion of said sum under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, provided, however, that the appropriation authorized hereunder shall be contingent upon approval by the voters of a ballot question to exclude the amounts to pay for the bonds or notes authorized for this purpose from the provisions of Proposition 2½, so called, and, further, to authorize the Select Board to execute any and all documents, agreements and instruments and take all other action necessary or convenient to accomplish the foregoing, or to take any action relative thereto", seconded by Select Member Grady.** Roll Call Vote, All-Aye. **Motion by Select Member Dippold for the Select Board to recommend the warrant article on the floor of Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Grady.** Roll Call Vote, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Grady-Aye, Jean Healy Dippold-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-abstained from the vote. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to include a ballot question at the annual Town Election on May 13th to read "Shall the Town of Cohasset be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to pay costs associated with the design and construction of an addition to and renovations of Town Hall.", seconded by Select Member Grady.** Roll Call Vote, All-aye.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant-Review & Vote All Remaining Articles & Vote to Close & Publish the Warrant

Article 4- Operating Budget – Town Manager Senior and Finance Director Mullen reviewed the Town Operating Budget for FY24. Mr. Senior stated that Advisory had voted 8-0 to approve. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy for the Select Board to recommend the Operating Budget to Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Grady.** Roll Call Vote. All-aye.

Article 6-Supplemental Appropriation for Fiscal 2023- Town Manager Senior explained the Supplemental Appropriation needs for FY23. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to support and recommend the Supplemental Appropriation for FY23 to Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Dippold.** Roll Call Vote. All-aye.

Article 7-Stabilization and other Special Funds- Town Manager Senior explained the two transfers for this year. **Motion by Select Member Dippold for the Select Board to recommend the Stabilization and other Special Funds currently designated as warrant article 7, seconded by Select Member Grady.** Roll Call Vote. All-aye.

Article 8-Capital Improvements Budget- Assistant Town Manager Leary stated that projects #5 & #8 have not been voted on by advisory. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to recommend Article 8 Capital Improvement Budget as to project number 1,2,3,4,6,7,9 and 11 to Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Senior explained that projects 5 & 8 may be completed in time to be included on the warrant, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.**

Article 10-Allocation of Funds for One Time Cost-Town Manager Senior explained there were only two one-time costs included in Article 10. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to approve the recommendation of the Allocation of funds for One Time Cost to Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.**

Article 13-Community Preservation Committee-Town Manager Senior explained the article and discussed putting the \$1M recommendation by CPC for the Town Hall Building Project back on the warrant for Town Meeting. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to recommend Article 13 with the additional recommendations of \$1M for Town Hall consistent with the CPC recommendation to Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.**

Article 17-Stormwater Management Bylaw Revisions-Town Manager Senior explained that Advisory had voted 8-0 to recommend this article along with an unanimous vote by the Conservation Committee. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to have the Select Board recommend the Stormwater Management Bylaw Revisions at Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.**

Article 18-Publication of Building Permits Issued-Town Manager Senior explained the article and that it was supported by Advisory 8-0. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to recommend the Publication of Building Permits Issued changes at Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.**

Select Member Dippold recommended moving the larger articles up higher in the warrant. The Select Board discussed the changes. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to move Town Hall Project article to Article #5 and to move the CPC article to Article #6 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote. Diane Kennedy-Nay, Jean Heally Dippold-Aye, Paul Grady-Aye, Corey Evans-Nay, Jack Creighton-Aye.**

Motion by Chair Creighton to close and sign the warrant for Annual Town Meeting on Monday, May 1, 2023, and approve the posting and publication of it, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.

Discussion about CPC Fund Request–None.

Town Manager Update–None.

Select Board Comments- Select Member Kennedy congratulated the Rotary Club on the successful Road Race. Select Member Grady thanked the Fire Department and thanked the Select Board for getting the ball rolling on the Town Hall project. Select Member Evans stated that he was glad things were moving forward but would like to apologize to the people looking for playgrounds, fields, and courts. He also apologized to the Town Hall Building Committee for taking their legs out from under them and hopes they can recover. Select Member Evans said that he would be in Asia next week and would be unable to

Select Board Minutes

April 4, 2023

attend a Select Board meeting if they have one. Select Member Dippold stated that as it relates to field, courts and playgrounds, you have not been forgotten. The board will work hard to get this done in the next few months once they better understand free cash and will work collaboratively with CPC for funding to progress these projects. She explained that she knows it is disappointing to all the people working hard on this and the board will not stop trying to get these things done. Chair Creighton explained that there is a large backlog of items that need to get done and the board is doing everything it can to be fair to everyone. He is appreciative of the Town Hall Building Committee and congratulated the Select Board for taking a forthright, honest view of the Town Hall project and not avoiding it.

Approval of Minutes-3/7/2023-Motion by Select Member Kennedy to approve the Select Board Minutes of 3/7/2023, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.

Motion by Select Member Grady to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote. All-aye.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Creighton, Chair